THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44106
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PD 3-3 or 3-10
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F.A. 3-4
Johnson

MUSEUM LECTURE
March 10 3:30 p.m.

Otto Piene, a leading West German artist in the field of environmental art, light machines and multimedia, will talk about Phenomena versus Objects at The Cleveland Museum of Art on Sunday afternoon, March 10 at 3:30. Piene will illustrate the lecture with slides of his own work and that of other light-artists. He will discuss art and light and a combination of both.

Piene, usually a Düsseldorf resident, is presently Visiting Artist at Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Center for Advanced Visual Studies. As a visual artist he has executed vibrating stencil paintings, light graphics, smoke drawings and paintings, fire paintings and light machines. He has produced light ballets and was associated with the Zero film "0 x 0 = Art". In literary endeavors the artist executes poetry and plays in addition to having co-published with Heinz Mack, another leading light-artist, the magazines ZERO 1 (The Red Picture) and ZERO 2 (Vibration).

In 1962 the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. included Piene with fifteen other German artists in a traveling exhibit which consisted of a light machine projecting colored lights. Between 1959 and 1965 the artist has had seventeen one-man shows in Germany, Belgium, England, Italy and the United States; he has also participated in many two- and three-man exhibitions. Museums owning his works are located in various cities of Germany, Belgium, Holland, Austria, Canada, Japan and the United States (The Museum of Modern Art, New York, The Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo and The Walker Art Center, Minneapolis).

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Sunday, March 10 3:30

Lecture, ~~Wednesday, February 21~~, 1968, ~~8:30~~ p.m.

"Phenomena versus Objects"

NAME: Otto Piene
Address:
Center for Advanced Visual Studies
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
40, Massachusetts Ave.,
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

PLACE OF BIRTH: Laasphe, Westfalia, Germany

EXACT TITLE OF LECTURE: Phenomena versus Objects
(about light, art and light art)

AIM AND SCOPE OF LECTURE: Why artists today are performing as much or more than they are creating objects to be permanently installed in living rooms. Expansion. Multimedia. Illustrated by slides of my own and other light artists' sculptures, performances.

PD ~~2/18~~ 3/10 or 3/3

Press ~~2/17~~ 3/9

SP ~~2/15~~ 3/7

M. ~~1/31~~ M. 2/21

Work on 2/15

~~Work on 1/26~~

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# OTTO PIENE

*Biographical notes:*

| | |
|---|---|
| 1928 | Born in Laasphe, Westphalia, Germany |
| 1944—46 | Antiairkraft Youth Division; Labor Corps Infantry Division<br>British P. O. W. |
| 1947 | Graduation from gymnasium |
| 1948—50 | Blocherer Art School and Hochschule der bildenden Künste, Munich |
| 1950—53 | Staatliche Kunstakademie, Düsseldorf |
| 1953—57 | University of Cologne; graduates with state exam in philosophy, 1957 |
| 1957 | Begins vibrating stencil paintings |
| | Initiates night-long exhibitions in his Düsseldorf studio |
| 1958 | Co-publishes, with Heinz Mack, the magazines ZERO 1 (The Red Picture) and ZERO 2 (Vibration) |
| 1959 | Begins light graphics, smoke drawings, smoke paintings |
| | First one-man show, Galerie Schmela, Düsseldorf, with first performance of the light ballet |
| 1960 | First light machines |
| | Designs permanently installed, programmed light reliefs for Roland School, Düsseldorf |
| 1961 | Fire paintings |
| | Light ballet shown in large halls of several European museums |
| | Publication of ZERO 3 (Dynamo); after that many Zero exhibitions of varying extent in different European countries |
| 1962 | Series of fire paintings, "Fauna and Flora" |
| | First exhibition in London, one-man show at McRoberts & Tunnard Gallery, "Light and Smoke" |
| | "Salon de lumière" with Mack and Günther Uecker at "nul" show, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; after that similar environmental groups of projecting and reflecting light sculptures at other European museums |
| | Light machine with colored projections in "Sixteen German Artists", a U. S. traveling show originated by the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C. |

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|---|---|
| 1963 | Series of fire paintings, "Eyes" |
| | Many one-man shows which include the light ballet |
| | Zero film, "O x O = Art", produced by Gerd Winkler, Hessischer Rundfunk, Frankfurt |
| | Spring steel sculptures, "Pearl Flowers" |
| 1964 | Commissioned to design lighting for new City Opera House in Bonn |
| | Production of Piene's play, "Die Feuerblume" (The Fire Flower) at the Theater Diogenes, Berlin |
| | Artist-in-residence, Graduate School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Zero show, Institute of Contemporary Art at the Univ. of Penn. |
| | Lectures at the Institute of Contemporary Art in London, the Art Institute of Chicago, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. |
| 1965 | At "nul 1965" show, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Piene's room displays constant light projections ("Permanentes Lichttheater") |
| | Mack-Piene-Uecker retrospective, Kestner-Gesellschaft, Hanover |
| | Execution and installation of Piene's programmed light sculptures for the foyer and orchestra of Bonn City Opera House |
| | Publication of "Rose oder Stern", portfolio of Piene poetry and silk screens, Galerie Rottloff, Karlsruhe |
| | Preparation of new play, "The Light Auction", to be produced in March, 1966, by the German Academy of Dramatic Arts, Frankfurt |

*Partial list of public collections owning works:*

Kaiser-Wilhelm-Museum, Haus Lange, Krefeld

Museum Schloss Morsbroich, Leverkusen

Städtisches Museum, Wuppertal

Gradska Gallerija Umjetnosti, Zagreb

Musée Royal des Beaux Arts, Brussels

Stedelijk van-Abbe-Museum, Eindhoven

Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam

Museum des 20. Jahrhunderts, Vienna

National Gallery of Art, Ottawa

Niigata Art Museum, Japan

Museum of Modern Art, New York

Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo

Walker Art Center, Minneapolis

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*One-Man Shows*

| | |
|---|---|
| 1959 | Galerie Schmela, Düsseldorf |
| 1960 | Galerie Diogenes, Berlin |
| | Galerie Schmela, Düsseldorf, "A Festival for Light" |
| 1961 | Galerie Ad libitum, Antwerp, "The Light Paints" |
| | Galerie nota, Munich |
| | Galerie dato, Frankfurt, "sensibilité prussienne" |
| 1962 | Museum Schloss Morsbroich, Leverkusen, "Licht und Rauch" drawings |
| | Galerie Schmela, Düsseldorf, "Fauna and Flora" |
| | McRoberts & Tunnard Gallery, London, "Light and Smoke" |
| 1963 | Galerie Müller, Stuttgart |
| | Galerie Ad libitum, Antwerp, "Die Feuerblume" |
| | Städtischer Kunstpavillon, Soest, fire gouaches |
| | Galleria Cadario, Milan, "pitture di fuoco" |
| | Galerie Schmela, Düsseldorf, Eyes |
| | Galleria La Polena, Genoa |
| 1965 | Galerie Rottloff, Karlsruhe, "Rose oder Stern" |
| | Howard Wise Gallery, New York, "Light Ballet" |

*Partial List of Two- and Three-Man Shows**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1960 | studio f, Ulm |
| 1961 | Galerie St. Stephan, Vienna |
| | Galerie Müller, Stuttgart |
| | Galleria La Salita, Rome |
| | Galerie Rive Droite, Paris |
| 1962 | Palais des Beaux Arts, Brussels |
| | studio f, Ulm |
| 1963 | Kaiser-Wilhelm-Museum, Haus Lange, Krefeld |

* *mainly with Mack and Uecker*

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| | |
|---|---|
| 1964 | Galerie Lawrence, Paris |
| | Galleria Il Bilico, Rome |
| | McRoberts & Tunnard Gallery, London |
| | Howard Wise Gallery, New York |
| 1965 | Retrospective, Kestner-Gesellschaft, Hanover |

*Partial List of Zero Shows*

| | |
|---|---|
| 1958 | 7th Night Exhibition, "The Red Picture" (ZERO 1), Piene's studio, Düsseldorf |
| | 8th Night Exhibition, "Vibration" (ZERO 2), Piene's studio, Düsseldorf |
| 1959 | dynamo 1, Wiesbaden |
| 1961 | On the occasion of the publication of "Dynamo" (ZERO 3), edition exposition demonstration, Galerie Schmela, Düsseldorf |
| 1962 | Galerie Ad libitum, Antwerp |
| | "nul", Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam |
| | Zero in "forum 62", Ghent |
| 1963 | Galerie Diogenes, Berlin, show, demonstration and publication of the poetic manifesto "ZERO — the New Idealism" |
| | IV. Biennale of San Marino, Grand Prize for Zero and gruppo n |
| 1964 | ZERO-nul, Gemeente-Museum, The Hague |
| | New Vision Centre, London |
| | Demonstration I. C. A., London |
| | Zero in "Possibilities", Deutscher Künstlerbund, Haus am Waldsee, Berlin |
| | Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia |
| 1965 | The Washington Gallery of Modern Art |
| | Zero in "aktuell 65", aktuell galerie, Bern |
| | Atelier Fontana, Milan |
| | Galleria Cavallino, Venice |
| | "nul 1965", Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam |

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